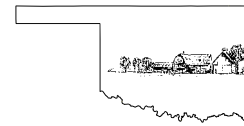


OKLAHOMA

CROP-WEATHER



Vol. 27, No. 8

ISSN-0194-4770)

Issued weekly March - Nov.,
monthly Jan. and Feb., no issue
in December, by the

Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics Service, P.O. Box 528804

Oklahoma City, OK 73152

Phone (405) 522-6190

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/weather/cpcurr/ok-crop-weather>

April 5, 2004

A combined contribution with
-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Wheat Continues to Progress, Favorable Conditions Still Needed

April 5 - Warm, sunny weather allowed most farmers ample opportunity to work in the fields last week. There were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork. Most reporters commented that they need more rain in their areas. Only two districts reported any rainfall last week and that was just a trace. Warm conditions have further decreased soil moisture levels and both topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies declined from last week. Topsoil moisture was at 2 percent surplus, 65 percent adequate, 29 percent short and 4 percent very short. Subsoil moisture was at 1 percent surplus, 61 percent adequate, 32 percent short and 6 percent very short. Temperatures averaged in the mid 50's throughout the state.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	4	29	65	2
Last Week	2	21	75	2
Last Year	10	24	65	1

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	6	32	61	1
Last Week	4	31	63	2
Last Year	8	28	63	1

Small Grains: Wheat and oat conditions changed very little from last week and were rated as mostly fair to good. Winter wheat was 10 percent excellent, 48 percent good, 30 percent fair, 9 percent poor and 3 percent very poor. Weather conditions for wheat have been sporadic throughout the state. Some counties were reporting good progress with favorable weather conditions and the crop outlook was looking good. However, other counties were reporting a lack of moisture and dry conditions which was stressing the growth of wheat. Thin stands were also reported due to army worm infestations. Wheat progressed from 62 percent jointing last week to 82 percent jointing this week. Oat condition was at 5 percent excellent, 41 percent good, 40 percent fair, 11 percent poor and 3 percent very poor with 98 percent of the acreage planted and 33 percent jointing. Rye condition was 12 percent excellent, 58 percent good, 21 percent fair, 7 percent poor and 3 percent very poor. Ninety percent of the rye crop was jointed.

Row Crops: Producers made good progress with their seedbed preparation for summer crops. Twenty two percent of the corn was planted, 3 points higher than last year and 6 points higher than the 5-year average.

Seedbed preparation increased 15 points from last week and topped the five year average by 5 points. Cotton seedbed prepared, at 59 percent, was one point below last year, but 6 points above the 5-year average. Peanut seedbed preparation was 32 percent this week, which was a nine point increase from the previous week. Soybean seedbed preparation was at 35 percent, up from both last year and the five year average. Sorghum progress lagged behind normal trends. Twenty-three percent of the seedbeds were prepared, four points below the 5-year average and 8 points below this time last year.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 4, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	3	9	30	48	10
Last Week	4	10	28	49	9
Last Year	0	5	25	52	18
Rye					
This Week	2	7	21	58	12
Oats					
This Week	3	11	40	41	5

Pasture: Pasture and range conditions were mostly unchanged from last week. Seventy- four percent of the pastures were in fair to good condition, and an additional 5 percent were in excellent condition. Seventeen percent of the pastures were in poor condition and 4 percent were very poor. The mild, warmer temperatures have prompted pastures to begin to green up, however, more rain is needed.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were very similar to last week with 92 percent reported in fair to excellent condition. Only 8 percent were in poor or very poor condition. Milder weather continued to help livestock conditions. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$97.51 per cwt., down slightly from last week. The price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds was down \$3.81 from last week to average \$86.41 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 4, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	2	6	28	52	12
Pasture & Range	4	17	44	30	5

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary
P.O. Box 528804
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending April 4, 2004

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Sorghum				
Jointing	82	62	76	65	Seedbed Prepared	23	15	31	27
Oats -					Soybeans				
Planted	98	95	94	94	Seedbed Prepared	35	32	33	34
Jointing	33	18	26	31	Peanuts				
Rye -					Seedbed Prepared	32	23	32	36
Jointing	90	80	n/a	n/a	Cotton				
Corn -					Seedbed Prepared	59	45	60	53
Seedbed Prepared	65	50	64	60					
Planted	22	14	19	16					

Weather for Week Ending April 4, 2004 - Temperatures ranged from 26 degrees at Kenton on Tuesday, March 30th to 84 degrees at Goodwell on Thursday, April 1st. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. at seven of nine districts to 0.09 in. Panhandle district. Soil temperatures averaged 50 degrees at Miami on Wednesday, March 31st, to 68 degrees at Waurika on Saturday, April 3rd.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending April 4, 2004

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2004 to April 4, 2004		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	70	35	53	0.09	2.12	+0.24	113
West Central	69	41	55	0.00	4.52	+1.78	165
Southwest	72	43	57	0.00	3.69	+1.07	141
North Central	66	38	52	0.00	4.46	+1.38	145
Central	69	40	55	0.00	4.29	+0.58	116
South Central	72	42	57	0.00	1.74	-2.31	43
Northeast	65	37	52	0.03	5.96	+1.75	142
East Central	68	39	54	0.00	3.58	-1.09	77
Southeast	71	39	55	0.00	2.34	-2.73	46